

CLALLAM COUNTY

MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Notes

Date: Monday, February 25, 2019
 Time: 5:30 – 7:10 pm
 Location: Commissioners’ Large Conference Room
 Minutes prepared by Helle Andersen

Members present:

P = Present E= Excused

P Bob Vreeland	P Robert Knapp	P Arnold Schouten	Mike McHenry	Jesse Waknitz
E Sissi Bruch	P Jeff Ward	E Mike Doherty	E Ann Soule	Greig Arnold
P Lyn Muench	E Alan Clark	P Ed Bowlby	E Pete Schroeder	Open Position

Ex-Officio Members / MRC staff/Members of the Public Present

Peggy McClure, City of Sequim Alternate; Coleman Byrnes, Resident; Helle Andersen, Clallam MRC Project Coordinator.

Call to Order/Introductions/ Changes to Agenda

None

Public Comment/Approval of Minutes

No public comments. The January minutes could not be approved due to lack of a quorum.

2019 Video Fellowship

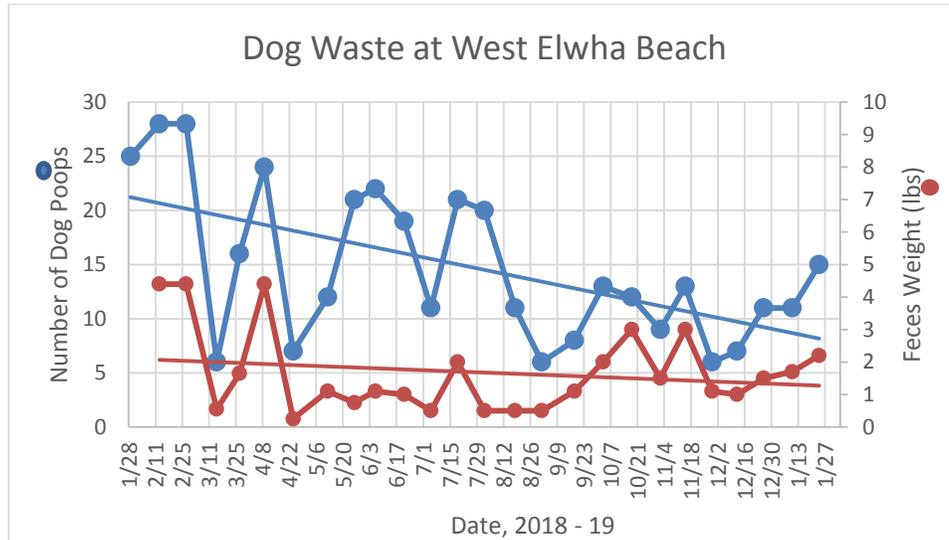
As an introduction the members watched two videos produced by Island MRC and the NWSC. In addition, the members watched a video made by Surfriders provided by Arnold Schouten. After the videos the members discussed the content and format of the video(s) to be produced by the fellow. The intent of the discussion was to arrive at a general outline so that the MRC would be in a position to talk with Patric McInnis, the video production instructor at Port Angeles High School. These are the highlights of the discussion:

1. One video should be focused on “who we are” – the organization and how it functions. Could be based on the current presentation that Jeff Ward and Ann Soule are giving to the city councils and commissioners and include our “bottom up approach.”
2. Separate videos could drill down in to specific topics. Topics suggested by the members were Olympia oyster restoration, pigeon guillemot surveys, internship program, oil spill preparedness, and crabber outreach.
3. The videos should be about 3 min long (the oil spill preparedness video may need to be longer).
4. The target audience for the first video would be the adult population; the other videos could be made to target a broader audience to include children (pigeon guillemot) or young adults (internship program).
5. The approach of having several shorter videos would provide an opportunity to mix and match which videos to show at a given event.
6. The MRC could give the fellow and Patric McInnis a general outline of what the members are looking for and then see what ideas the student may have.
7. Other suggestions included reaching out to John Gussman and also consider the theme “Local Hero” from the Surfrider Foundations competition.

The following members agreed to be on the Fellowship Program committee: Lyn Muench, Arnold Schouten and Alan Clark. *Next step will be to contact Patric McInnis and set up a meeting with the subcommittee.*

Elwha Beach Stewardship Project

Helle Andersen gave a brief summary presentation of the Elwha Beach stewardship program. The Sanikan, two dog waste disposal bins and the bag dispenser have now been in place for one year. The total cost of the facility during this time was \$2,400. Approximately 7,800 bags were distributed, it took about 30 hours and 520 miles to service the facility and carry out the dog waste survey twice a month. James at Bill's Plumbing provided the following assessment "the Sanikan is well used, but not to the point of being unsanitary. The dog waste bins get emptied every 2 weeks." The following graph summarizes the results of the dog waste surveys.



The average per survey was 15 poops and 1.7 lbs. The totals for the year were 382 poops and 42 lbs. Based on the assumption that one year's data is enough Helle has discontinued the dog waste surveys. Interns the last three years conducted the following numbers of beach use surveys: 6 in 2016, 15 in 2017 and 26 in 2018. The average number of people on the beach was 21 in 2016 and 44 in 2018 – doubling the number of visitors in two years. The average number of dogs was 4.5 in 2016 and 4.7 in 2018 – so more or less the same. Of these dogs an average of 1.5 was leashed and 3.0 unleashed in 2016. In 2018 these numbers were 2.2 leashed and 2.5 unleashed. In 2018 the average number of cars in the parking lot was 12 with a peak 27 and 11% of these cars were out of state. The information was provided to facilitate a discussion whether the program should be continued. A concern was raised that the property owners would close the access to the beach if the MRC discontinue the pet waste and Sanikan facility. The road easement is maintained by the County and poses no concern. One outcome of the program could be that the information is presented for the County's Park & Recreation Department and they took on the cost of the facility. In the conversation Arnold Schouten informed the members that based on an autopsy the beaver, which was found dead last year, did not die from a dog attack. No decision was made about the program due to the lack of a quorum.

Projects for 2019-2020 Grant Cycle

The current roster of projects carried out under the 2018-19 grant includes:

- Monitoring: kelp, pigeon guillemot, forage fish and biomonitoring at Pillar Point
- Educational outreach: oil spill preparedness; general outreach including Ocean Science program at Clallam Bay and Dungeness River festival; marine debris; Elwha Beach stewardship
- Olympia oyster restoration in Blyn

In addition to these projects Jeff Ward suggested that we included an event or short project focusing on Orca whales. The project could potentially include monitoring of noise or ambient boat traffic and he suggested we reach out to potential partners such as Feiro Marine Life Center and first nation members. The members briefly discussed the current projects and whether the MRC can effectively carry out so

many projects. The members present agreed to keep all projects for now. No final decision could be made because of lack of a quorum and the topic will be on the March agenda.

NOAA Marine Debris Grant Meeting

Peggy McClure gave a summary of the meeting February 1st in Port Hadlock with NWSF and Jefferson MRC. The meeting was attended by NWSF Staff: Caroline Gibson, Jason Morgan, CMRC: Jeff Ward, Helle Andersen, Peggy McClure and JMRC: Cheryl Lowe, Jackie Gardner. The grant will fund the crab pot removal and crabber outreach project for three years. Deliverables include three years of derelict crab pot surveys and removals, two years of outreach, 1,200 informational packets distributed, and reaching 1,500 individuals. The focus of the meeting was the 2019 outreach activities. In 2018, JMRC piloted a workshop led by experienced crabbers and WDFW staff. The workshop had a lot of interest and it was a good mix to have an experienced crabber sharing their tips and WDFW staff on hand to discuss regulations. It was decided to provide more workshops at locations with increased space to support more attendance. JMRC discussed having two workshops perhaps at two separate locations and CMRC having one or two workshops. Having experienced crabbers and WDFW staff lead the workshops is important to address the different subjects which will come up during discussions. Possible venues mentioned include Port Angeles Yacht Club, WSU Extension, John Wayne Marina, Port Townsend and Port Ludlow. Ideas for advertising workshops included brown paper tickets, press release, list servers, NWSI and WDFW social media, and posters. NWSF will provide support for design and printing of posters. Another way to bring awareness about the project is to bring people such as press, County Commissioners, and funders out to observe removal operations. Alan Clark has a boat contact who may be able to ferry visitors out to the crab pot removal vessel. NWSF and MRCs will work together to coordinate having local press on removal vessels.

The importance of having experienced crabbers participate in dockside surveys was discussed. Clallam mentioned young and inexperienced interns may have difficulty reaching and interacting with crabbers. The MRCs will decide when is the best time (days and times) to conduct dockside outreach based on past efforts. NWSF will continue its social media campaign and include outreach specific to Jefferson and Clallam Counties. NWSF has \$15,000 to contribute to internships to assist with outreach activities to be distributed between the two MRCs during the two years of outreach. This amounts to \$3,750/year for CMRC. Jason offered to give a presentation about the project for the BOCC and the city councils.

Marine Trade Position

The Marine Trade position is still open after Kathy Cooper resigned. The members discussed the possibility of changing the position to an “at-large” position or to a “business” position. However, it was decided to reach out to Kathy Cooper’s boss and members of the local MRSC to see if any of them would be interested in joining the Clallam MRC.

NWSC Update

Jeff Ward provided a brief update on the NWSC based on information provided by Alan Clark. Paul Clampitt (the new chair of the commission) and Alan Clark (the new vice-chair) have been focused on lobbying state representatives for funding. The state funds which currently constitute 44% of the NWSC budget will end in 2019 and they are hoping to get the funding included in the next biannual budget.

Good of the Order

2019 Internship Funding: the funding for the 2019 internship program will come from three sources – the 2018-19 NWSC grant will fund the four summer interns; the NOAA Marine Debris grant will fund two crabber outreach interns; and the Fellowship grant will fund the video intern. Jeff Ward informed the members that the Fellowship RFP is on track to be released in mid-March with the intent to coincide with the RFP for the NWSC grant.

Clallam MRC Retreat: Jeff Ward asked the members if they would be interested in participating in a Saturday retreat potential facilitated by Hillary Wilkinson. Jeff thought that one of the topics for the retreat could be how to execute the new strategic plan. Another topic could be the discussion of whether the MRC is conducting too many projects to be efficient. Mike Doherty has offered his cabin on Lake Crescent for the retreat. The members present thought that it may be difficult to find a day available for all MRC

members and they also thought that the agenda for the retreat needs to be well thought out. It was decided to include the topic on the March agenda.

Public Comment

Robert Knapp informed the members that because of the snow the presentation "Western Red Cedar, Importance to Salmon" by Robert had been postponed to Friday, March 1st. The presentation is free and starts at 5:30 pm. In honor of Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe recognition day on February 11th, the Dungeness River Center dedicated the month of February to learning more about the people who have lived and prospered on the Olympic Peninsula for more than 10,000 years.

Coleman Byrnes informed the members that Ed Chadd of Streamkeepers will retire this summer and Coleman is concerned that the position will not be filled and the Streamkeepers program will be closed down. He was asking if the MRC would consider writing a letter to Ross Tyler in support of the program. *It was decided that Helle Andersen should contact Ross Tyler or other County employees to confirm that the program will be closed down when Ed retires.*

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.